

IN THE CLAIMS:

The status and content of each claim follows.

1. (currently amended) A method for displaying an occlusion of a display device on said display device, comprising the steps of:

generating an image on said display device;

capturing first contents from said image displayed on said display device with an image capture device, said image capture device being spaced from said display device;

analyzing said first contents to identify a first set of potentially occluded pixels;

changing a value of said first set of potentially occluded pixels to generate a modified image on said display device;

capturing second contents from said modified image displayed on said display device with said image capture device;

selectively confirming said first set potentially occluded pixels as confirmed occluded pixels based on said second contents; and

generating said confirmed occluded pixels on said display device using a predetermined display value.

2. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of analyzing said first contents to identify said first set of potentially occluded pixels further comprises the step of:

comparing a value of each pixel of said first contents to a corresponding value of each pixel of said image.

3. (original) The method of claim 2, wherein said display values represent one of a color and an intensity.

4. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of changing a value further comprises the step of:

changing said value of said first set of potentially occluded pixels to a reserved value; and

regenerating said display device using said reserved value for said first set of potentially occluded pixels and image values for remaining pixels.

5. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

identifying display pixels within a predetermined distance of said confirmed occluded pixels as a second set of potentially occluded pixels;

changing a value of said second set of potentially occluded pixels on said display device to a reserved value;

capturing third contents of said display device using said image capture device; and selectively confirming said second set of potentially occluded pixels as confirmed occluded pixels based on said third contents.

6. (previously presented) The method of claim 5, wherein said predetermined distance is user selectable.

7. (currently amended) A method for processing a displayed image comprising the steps of:

passively testing a first version of said displayed image captured by an image capture device to determine if a portion of said displayed image is blocked from said image capture device; and

actively testing said portion of said displayed image based on said first version of said displayed image and a second version of said displayed image to confirm whether said portion of said displayed image is blocked from said image capture device, wherein said second version of said displayed image is captured by said image capture device after being displayed on said a display device.

8. (previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein said step of passively testing further comprises the step of:

comparing a value of each pixel of said first version of said displayed image captured by said image capture device to a corresponding value of each pixel of said displayed image.

9. (previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein said step of actively testing further comprises the steps of:

changing a display value of said portion of said displayed image to generate said second version of said displayed image;

capturing said second version of said displayed image with said image capture device; and

selectively confirming said portion of said displayed image as occluded based on an analysis of said second version of said displayed image.

10. (original) The method of claim 9, wherein said step of actively testing further comprises the step of:

testing another portion of said displayed image proximate said confirmed portion of said displayed image for occlusion.

11. (original) The method of claim 7, further comprising the step of:

actively testing all of the pixels of said displayed image, prior to said step of passively testing, to initialize an estimate of said displayed image.

12. (previously presented) The method of claim 7, further comprising the step of:
changing a threshold associated with said step of passively testing said first version of said displayed image, based upon a result of said step of actively testing said portion of said displayed image.

13. (previously presented) A computer-readable medium containing a program that performs the steps of:

passively testing a first version of a displayed image captured by an image capture device to determine if a portion of said displayed image is blocked from said image capture device; and

actively testing said portion of said displayed image based on said first version of said displayed image and a second version of said displayed image to confirm whether said portion of said displayed image is blocked from said image capture device, wherein said second version of said displayed image is captured by said image capture device after being displayed on said display.

14. (previously presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 13, wherein said step of passively testing further comprises the step of:

comparing a value of each pixel of said first version of said displayed image captured by said image capture device to a corresponding value of each pixel of said displayed image.

15. (previously presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 13, wherein said step of actively testing further comprises the steps of:

changing a display value of said portion of said displayed image to generate said second version of said displayed image;

capturing said second version of said displayed image with said image capture device; and

selectively confirming said portion of said displayed image as occluded based on an analysis of said second version of said displayed image.

16. (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 15, wherein said step of actively testing further comprises the step of:

testing another portion of said displayed image proximate said confirmed portion of said displayed image for occlusion.

17. (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 13, further comprising the step of:

actively testing all of the pixels of said displayed image, prior to said step of passively testing, to initialize an estimate of said displayed image.

18. (previously presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 13, further comprising the step of:

changing a threshold associated with said step of passively testing said first version of said displayed image, based upon a result of said step of actively testing said portion of said displayed image.

19. (previously presented) An image processing system comprising:
a display for displaying an image;
an image capture device for capturing a first version of said displayed image; and
a processor, connected to said display and said image capture device for passively testing said first version of said displayed image captured by said image capture device to determine if a portion of said displayed image is blocked from said image capture device; and for actively testing said portion of said displayed image based on said first version of said displayed image and a second version of said displayed image to confirm whether said portion of said displayed image is blocked from said image capture device, wherein said second version of said displayed image is captured by said image capture device after being displayed on said display.

20. (original) The system of claim 19, wherein said processor performs said passive testing by comparing a value of each pixel of said version of said displayed image captured by said image capture device to a corresponding value of each pixel of said displayed image.

21. (previously presented) The system of claim 19, wherein said processor performs said active testing by changing a display value of said portion of said displayed image to generate said second version of said displayed image; capturing said second version of said displayed image with said image capture device; and selectively confirming said portion of said displayed image as occluded based on an analysis of said second version of said displayed image.
22. (original) The system of claim 21, wherein said processor performs said active testing by testing another portion of said displayed image proximate said confirmed portion of said displayed image for occlusion.
23. (original) The system of claim 19, wherein said processor also performs active testing prior to said passive testing by actively testing all of the pixels of said displayed image to initialize an estimate of said displayed image.
24. (previously presented) The system of claim 19, wherein said processor also changes a threshold associated with said step of passively testing said first version of said displayed image, based upon a result of said step of actively testing said portion of said displayed image.
25. (previously presented) An image processing system comprising:
means for displaying an image;
means for capturing a first version of said displayed image; and
means, connected to said means for displaying and said means for capturing, for

passively testing said first version of said displayed image captured by said means for capturing to determine if a portion of said displayed image is blocked from said means for capturing and for actively testing said portion of said displayed image based on said first version of said displayed image and a second version of said displayed image to confirm whether said portion of said displayed image is blocked from said means for capturing, wherein said second version of said displayed image is captured by said means for capturing after being displayed on said means for displaying.